

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Initially, Applicant would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided. Claims 1-15 are currently pending. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections, and allowance of all the claims pending in the present application.

SUMMARY OF THE OFFICE ACTION

In the Official Action, the Examiner has objected to the Abstract as not conforming to MPEP § 608.01(b). The Official Action has rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Official Action has rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by LIIRI (WO 02/31717), and it has rejected claims 1, 4-6 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by FUJIWARA et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0139176). Claims 2, 3, 7 and 11-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over FUJIWARA et al. in view of YOKOMORI (JP Patent Publication 2001-127487).

THE ABSTRACT

In order to overcome the objection to the Abstract, a new Abstract has been provided, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection.

THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

In order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, the claims have been amended to address the issues noted in the Official Action. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Official Action has rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by LIIRI (WO 02/31717). Claims 1 and 6 have been amended, and it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1 and 6 are not anticipated by LIIRI. More specifically, claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite that the device is a “removable device, including a parts cassette or a suction nozzle”, indicating the location of the “removable device in a component-mounting plant”, the reading of the identification code of the removable device and inputting of the destination location “occurs every time the location of the removable device changes”, and the maintenance data includes “the location data for each of the identification codes of the removable devices”. Applicant respectfully submits that LIIRI does not teach, show or suggest these claimed features, in the respective combinations.

LIIRI relates to arranging the maintenance of a production plant such that information is transferred bi-directionally between the production plant and an application server located elsewhere to exchange information that supports service and maintenance. Paper mills, board mills, pulp production plants, paper finishing plants and similar plants associated with paper/board manufacture/converting are discussed in this application as examples of the production plant. (See page 1, lines 14-19.) LIIRI does not disclose removable devices the type described by Applicant. Moreover, there is no disclosure that paper mill equipment is moved, or that the location or destination of the paper mill equipment is stored in a database every time the equipment is moved. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that LIIRI does not anticipate amended claims 1 and 6.

The Official Action has further rejected claims 1, 4-6 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

as being anticipated by FUJIWARA et al. FUJIWARA et al. is directed to a portable terminal system with a message notification system for a component system. FUJIWARA discloses a notification system which transmits a “stockout warning notification” for notifying a user when to restock inventory after a predetermined period (*see* FUJIWARA et al., paragraph [0153]). The system may also be used for maintenance and inspection of components (*see* FUJIWARA et al., paragraph [0129]). The notification includes an apparatus code relevant to the stockout warning notification, the location of stockout (such as a component reel setting position number or the like), a component code, and the remaining quantity of stocked products (*see* FUJIWARA et al., paragraph [0153]). FUJIWARA et al., however, does not disclose the removable devices recited in the combinations of amended independent claims 1 and 6. Moreover, FUJIWARA et al. does not disclose the reading of the identification code of the removable device and inputting of the destination location by the mobile terminal occurs every time the location of the removable device changes. FUJIWARA et al. also does not disclose that a data management unit stores the received maintenance data including the location data for each of the identification codes of the removable devices. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that FUJIWARA et al. does not anticipate amended claims 1 and 6.

THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Official Action has rejected claims 2, 3, 7 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over FUJIWARA et al. in view of YOKOMORI. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 3, 7 and 11-15 are allowable over FUJIWARA et al. for at least the same reasons as amended claims 1 and 6 from which they either directly or indirectly depend, as well as their individual recitations. Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that YOKOMORI does not cure the

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deficiencies of FUJIWARA et al., because although YOKOMORI is directed to component management (see, Abstract), YOKOMORI is not directed to the claimed reading of the identification code of the removable device and the inputting of the destination location by the mobile terminal occurs every time the location of the removable device changes. Lastly, YOKOMORI does not disclose that a data management unit stores the received maintenance data including the location data for each of the identification codes of the removable devices. Accordingly, Applicant submits that all the claims are patentable over the combination of FUJIWARA et al. in view of YOKOMORI.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an indication to that effect.

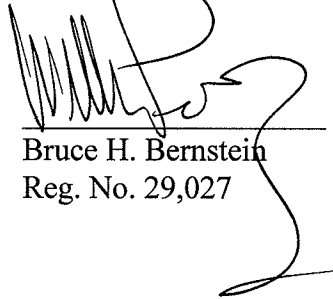
If any extension of time is necessary, this is an express request for any necessary extension of time and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee or any other fees which may be required to preserve the pendency of the present application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this Reply, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attached thereto.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Tokumi KOBAYASHI

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, looped "B" and a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

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